

The

July
2005



Trainmaster

The Official Publication of the
Pacific Northwest Chapter,
National Railway Historical Society
Portland, Oregon



Pacific Northwest Chapter Timetable #516

Membership Meetings: July 15, Aug. 19, 7:30 PM,
St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 5415 SE Powell Blvd.

If you know of any good program subjects for future call Ralph H. Johnson at 503-654-1930

Board of Directors Meetings: Aug. 11, Room 208, Union Station, 7:30 PM

Lending Library: July 16 & 23, Aug. 20 & 27, 1:30 to 4 pm, check-out subject to loan agreement.

Chapter Outing to Train Mountain: Sept 9-11, 2005: see below for details

Regional Vice President Vancancy

After giving much thought to it, I have decided it is time for me to retire from the RVP position at the end of this year. The National Nominating Committee would like recommendations for a replacement by mid June.

Nominations may come from any of the eight Chapters in this Region. If there is anyone in PNWC-NRHS that would like to serve in this position please let either Ron, Jim Long, or me know so the name can be submitted to the Nominating Committee. I will continue to serve out the rest of this year, and will assist whoever is my replacement to make a smooth transition. The Regional Vice President represents the National Organization to the Chapters, and a reciprocal duty to represent the Chapters to the National. The duties briefly are: to attend the RVP meetings which generally precede the Spring and Fall Board meetings, to attend the Board of Directors meetings, maintain contact with and provide information to the Chapters in the Region through phone calls, newsletters, and personal visits, etc. Assist Chapters that are having problems.

Gerald Schuler, Regional Vice President

Spend a day at Train Mountain during their Fall Meet, September 9-11, 2005.

Enjoy the late summer daylight and early fall colors on this excursion aboard Amtrak's Coast Starlight to Southern Oregon. There we'll see and ride a huge variety of one-eighth scale locomotives and rolling stock operating on 25 miles of world-class trackage at Train Mountain Railroad Museum. Train Mountain holds the Guinness World Record for the largest miniature railroad, and their meets attract thousands of rail enthusiasts from around the US and Canada.

This Chapter activity is open to members and invited guests, and includes:

* Round-trip coach travel on the Coast Starlight, * Two nights lodging including continental breakfasts * Shuttle bus to and from Train Mountain, * Admission fee, boxed lunch and banquet dinner at Train Mountain

This is a special opportunity for members all along the west coast to enjoy a Chapter activity. From Washington to California, and all stops in between, if you can board the Coast Starlight, you can join the fun.

Prices are subject to change, but current price estimates (based on Amtrak travel from Portland) are:

* One adult, with one bed: \$226 per person * Two adults, with one bed: \$182 per person * Two adults, with two beds: \$191.50 per person * One senior, with one bed: \$212.50 per person * Two seniors, with one bed: \$168.50 per person * Two seniors, with two beds: \$178 per person

The above prices will be slightly higher for departures from Washington, and slightly lower from stations south of Portland. Prices are even lower from California, due to lower lodging costs.

NARP, AAA and Child discounts are available also. Please inquire for specific pricing, specifying the age of each person in your party, and how you wish to room together.

This package price covers everything except your meals while onboard the Coast Starlight. Passengers are free to bring their own snacks, buy food in the Sightseer Lounge, or enjoy a meal in the full-service diner.

To ensure that we get the best rates and fares, this trip will require advance reservations. Contact Jim Long at

503-313-7382 or e-mail pnwc@pnwc-nrhs.org to learn more about this trip and reserve your space. Please provide a phone number, the number in your party, your choice of lodging arrangements, and indicate where you will board the Coast Starlight.

Remember, space is limited, so make your plans and get on board now!

PNWC-NRHS, Membership meeting minutes

May 20, 2005

Chapter President Ron McCoy called the meeting to order at 7:33, and welcomed with new members Jerry and Betsy Tanquist, and Henri Larose. Ron read the names of three more new members:

Bryan Leeder of Woodburn, Oregon; Dan Shafer of Lodi, California; and Craig Martin of Seattle, Washington.

Due to an error by the Secretary, a motion to approve the minutes of the April membership meeting was not recorded accurately.

Ron reminded members that as part of the Chapter's re-keying project, members who have old keys to Room 1 can return their key to Dave Van Sickle and receive a refund of their \$10 key deposit.

Convention Chair Arlen Sheldrake said that while order processing is lagging, registration numbers as of May 10 were 546 registrations representing 1,214 potential attendees. Still no commitment from the Union Pacific Railroad about bringing a steam locomotive to Portland for the convention. Volunteer Coordinate Keith Fleschner says many people have been stepping forward to fill volunteer slots.

Non-rail Events Chair Chuck McGaffey added that the Ruby Junction tour and Willamette Shore Trolley trips are showing strong interest.

Unfortunately, the APMA tour did not pan out well, and has been canceled.

Treasurer Ken Peters said that April expenses exceed income, before even including a pending payment for movement of the flanger to APMA. Donations to offset recurring monthly expenses are always appreciated.

Keith Fleschner said the monthly rolling stock work party would begin at 10:00 with donuts at Linnton.

Al Hall is coordinating the Chapter's participation in an event the weekend of June 18-19 at Multnomah Falls. The US Forest Service is organizing an event they're calling the Columbia Gorge History of Transportation. Along with the Chapter's rail archives, vintage automobiles and trucks will also be on display along the historic Old Columbia Gorge Highway.

Ron reminded everyone that there are lots of opportunities to volunteer, in many different skill areas, and many different levels of commitment. The Chapter's growth feeds directly from the number of members who get involved, and there's always something for everyone who has time to make a positive contribution.

A good time was had by all on the recent day trip to Seattle, held May 14. 24 passengers enjoyed a round trip on Amtrak Cascades, along with a tour of downtown Seattle's historical and transportation attractions, hosted by

Chapter President Ron McCoy. About two-thirds of those who went were first-time rail passengers. Meanwhile, the Chapter's September Amtrak trip to Train Mountain is building momentum, and a sign-up sheet was circulated for interested members.

Those who haven't signed up yet are urged to phone Jim Long at

503-313-7382 to make sure they get a spot reserved on the passenger list.

Activities Chair Darel Mack said that tentative plans were unfolding around the idea of holding the Chapter's annual picnic at a local 1/8th scale railroad. Library Committee Chair Irv Ewen said that Ralph Johnson would be staffing the Room 1 library from 1:30 to 4:00 on May 21 and 28.

Ron read a letter from Regional Vice President Gerald Schuler announcing his resignation as Regional VP effective December 31, 2005.

Gerald has served as Regional VP (a National position) for the last three years, and has been the Chapter's National Director for the past twelve. National will be soliciting nominees to fill Gerald's position. Ron thanked Gerald for his many years of service, both to the Chapter and to the National organization.

The "Unsung Hero" award for May 2005 went to Maxine Rodabaugh.

Maxine provides extensive support to the Trainmaster publication and mailing processes, and until only recently also served as Membership Chair.

Maxine was also the Chapter's Jack M. Holst Memorial Award recipient for 2001. As the senior member of the nominating committee (composed of the 2001, 2002 and 2003 winners), Maxine presented the Jack M. Holst Memorial Award for 2004 to Glenn Laubaugh. Glenn spends many hours each month editing the Trainmaster, one of the most important Chapter functions there is, since the Trainmaster -- the Chapter's official publication -- goes to all Chapter members every month. Glenn also donates his time to manage the excursions mailing list, present membership meeting programs, chairs the Museum Committee, and was responsible for the Chapter's internet presence from the mid-nineties until just recently.

In other news:

Jan Zweerts said the Lewis & Clark Explorer would undergo a dry run on May 21st. There will be no shuttle bus to take passengers from Union Station to Linnton this year. Tickets are available through Tickets West at 800-992-TIXX or www.ticketwest.com.

Jan also mentioned that the Rose City Garden Railway club will be having an open-house tour on July 9 at Portland locations, and July 10 in Vancouver.

Al Hall reported that the new Willamette Shore Trolley timetable is available. The 2005 APMA Steam-Up brochure is out also, and the upgrades at APMA include expansions to the OERHS trolley line and rolling stock.

Ron McCoy said Seattle's George Benson Waterfront Streetcar is in jeopardy. After two decades of popular operation, the street car is facing the loss of its barn at the north end of the waterfront.

Another public agency is pushing to have the facility demolished because it has other intentions for the land. A legal battle has already begun, but Ron says that he was cautioned that the streetcar may cease operations at the end of the summer. Also, the bus tunnel under downtown Seattle will be undergoing a lengthy closure to install rails that are compatible with the planned light rail and to construct a wye underground.

Jim Long said the Spirit of Washington dinner train is also threatened by King County's desire to tear up the tracks and pave the right-of-way for a jogging trail. The Spirit of Washington contends that both the rail and the trail can co-exist within the existing right-of-way.

Visit <http://www.spiritofwashingtondinnertrain.com> for more details, or phone toll-free 1-800-876-RAIL.

Membership Chair Diana Mack has membership directories available for

\$2 at meetings, or \$2.75 by US Mail. Phone Diana at 503-723-3345 or email pnwc@pnwc-nrhs.org to order yours.

Bill Hyde has surplus trip guides available, full of interesting historical notes, photographs and timetables from past Chapter excursions.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45. The evening's program would be a presentation by Jonathan A. Hutchison, Inter-city Passenger Rail Coordinator for the Oregon Department of Transportation. Jonathan presented an educational look at the funding and ridership growth of Oregon's passenger rail program, and answered several questions from Chapter members pertaining to future opportunities and challenges for passenger rail in Oregon.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Long

Chapter Officers

President: Ron McCoy (04, 05) 503.244.4315
Vice President: David Van Sickle ('04, '05) 503.297.3807
Treasurer: Kenneth I. Peters ('04, '05)
Secretary: Jim Long ('03, '04, '05) 503.313.7382
National Director: Gerald Schuler 503. 285.7941

Chapter Directors-at-Large

Ralph Johnson (05, 06, 07) 503.654.1930
Arlen Sheldrake (05, 06, 07) 503.223.7006
George Hickok (finish out term for 2004,05) 503.649-5762
Bob Jackson (03,04,05) 503. 231.4808
Keith L Fleschner (04, 05, 06) 503. 632. 0267
William D. Hyde (04, 05, 06) 503. 666. 5530
NRHS Regional Vice President: Gerald Shuler, 503. 285.7941

Committee Chairs

Activities: Darel Mack 503.723.3345
Archives: Chuck McGaffey 503.223.2227
Meeting Programs: Ralph Johnson 503. 654.1930
Concessions: Ted Ahlberg 503.579.2131
Car #76 Restoration: Keith Fleschner, 503.632.0267
Excursions: Kerrigan Gray 503.735.1206
Darel Mack 503.723.3345
Car Host: Darel Mack 503. 723.3345
Finance: See *Vice President*
Library: Irv Ewen 503.232-2441
Membership: Diana Mack, 503. 723.3345
Museum: Glenn Laubaugh, 503. 655.5466
Public Relations: Gerald Schuler, 503. 285.7941
Memorial Funds: Gerald Schuler, 503.285.7941
Rolling Stock: vacant, contact Ron McCoy
Chief Mechanical Officer:
Peter Rodabaugh, 503. 771.8545
Car Rental Agent: Bob Jackson, 503. 231.4808
Safety Officer: Keith Fleschner 503.632.0267
2005 NRHS Convention Chair:
Arlen Sheldrake 503.223.7006
Chapter Rep., Oregon Rail Heritage Foundation:
Arlen Sheldrake 503.223.7006



The Trainmaster is the official news-

letter of the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society. It is published monthly for the benefit of its members. Articles which appear in the *Trainmaster* do not express the official position of the organization on any subject unless specifically noted as such. Material from the *Trainmaster* may be reprinted in other publications provided credit is given as to the source, except in cases where the article originated in a third party publication and special permission was given to the *Trainmaster* to print the article here. Please address contributions, correspondence, and exchange copies of newsletters to:

Attn.: Trainmaster Editor
PNWC-NRHS, Room 1, Union Station, 800 N.W. 6th Avenue,
Portland, Oregon 97209-3794
Voice: (503) 226-6747, Fax: (503) 230-0572
Chapter E-Mail: pnwc@pnwc-nrhs.org
Trainmaster E-Mail: trainmaster@pnwc-nrhs.org
<http://www.pnwc-nrhs.org>

ISSN: 0041-0926

Editor: Glenn Laubaugh, (503) 655-5466

Circulation: George Hickok (503) 649-5762

Mailing & Distribution:

Maxine Rodabaugh (503) 253-4241

Janet Larson (503) 253-7436

Darel Mack (503) 723-3345

T-M Deadline: 20th of previous month on most months.

Membership in our Organization is available to anyone with an interest in railroad history. Rates are: \$35 total - \$15 for Chapter, \$20 for National

Please be sure to inform the membership chair at Membership Services, PNWC-NRHS, P.O. Box 2384, Portland, OR 97208-2384 of any changes in the status of your address.

**Inside this Trainmaster,
you will find:**

Regional V-Pres Needed (page 1)

**Spend A Day at Train Mountain!
Activity Announcement Page 1**

**Spend a Day at
Train Mountain!!
Chapter Outing to
the Largest Live
Steam Model
Railroad in the
World! Page 1!!!!!!**

**Please note correspondence containing
address changes on the exterior of the
envelope for fastest processing.**

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. Postage
Paid
Portland, OR
Permit No. 595

The *TRAINMASTER*
Pacific Northwest Chapter
National Railway Historical Society
Room 1, Union Station
800 N.W. 6th Avenue
Portland, OR 97209-3794

Address Service Requested

C246
PNWC-NRHS ARCHIVES - COPY 1
UNION STATION ROOM 1
800 NW SIXTH AVE RM 1
PORTLAND OR 97209-3794